General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 117

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/56/581)*]

56/265. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/84 of 4 December 2000,

Reaffirming that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance constitute a negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1]

Reaffirming also its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Recalling with satisfaction the proclamation in resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993 of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which began in 1993, and the adoption in resolution 49/146 of 23 December 1994 of the revised Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Noting with grave concern that, despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the three Decades have not been attained and that countless human beings continue to the present day to be the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Welcoming the fact that the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, urged States and the international community to support the activities of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Recognizing that the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Conference[2] addressed a wide range of practical issues which could complement the Programme of Action for the Third Decade,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See A/CONF.189/12, chap. I.

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General[3] within the framework of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report submitted by the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Recognizes* the need for adequate support and financial resources for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session further appropriate concrete proposals on how to ensure the financial and personnel resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, through the regular budget of the United Nations and extrabudgetary sources;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those that have made contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, strongly appeals to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Fund, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to continue to establish the appropriate contacts and undertake the appropriate initiatives;

4. *Considers* that, in order to attain the objectives of the Third Decade, all parts of its Programme of Action should be given equal attention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accord high priority to the activities of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade and, in this regard, to work within his mandate to ensure that the necessary financial resources are provided for the implementation of such activities during the remainder of the Decade;

6. *Reiterates its calls* upon all Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and regional organizations and interested non-governmental organizations to contribute fully to the effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade;

7. *Recognizes* that the Programme of Action for the Third Decade will require political will, adequate funding and international cooperation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

9. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this matter at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination".

97th plenary meeting
27 March 2002

[3] A/56/481.